

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AID-05 /072 W  
-----120726Z 016813 /11

R 111000Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7709  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0291

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV LA  
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY RESHUFFLE, PROMOTION OF TOURISM

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL KHAMTAN  
RATANAVONG TOLD POLOFF THAT MINISTRY PERSONNEL HAD BEEN  
RESHUFFLED AND THAT NOTE WOULD BE SENT SOON TO FOREIGN  
MISSIONS ABOUT CHANGES.

2. KHAMTAN HAS BEEN MOVED DOWN TO NUMBER TWO IN  
PROTOCOL ALTHOUGH NEW DIRECTOR HAS NOT YET BEEN NAMED.  
HE SAID THAT CHANSAMONE VONGSAPHAY, DIRECTOR OF NON-  
ALIGNED NATIONS AFFAIRS, HAS ALSO BEEN DEMOTED TO  
NUMBER TWO ALTHOUGH NO REPLACEMENT NAMED YET.

3. THIRD CHANGE IS IN CONSULAR AFFAIRS WHERE NEW  
DIRECTOR, KHOUN TIANEDAENG (PHONETIC) HAS BEEN  
APPOINTED AND FORMER DIRECTOR, SALYKHAMSY, HAS BEEN  
MOVED DOWNTOWN TO DEPUTY. DURING RECENT CALL BY POLOFF,  
SALY INTRODUCED KHOUN, WHO SAID HE HAD SERVED FOR SOME  
TIME IN ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORATE OF MINISTRY BUT HAD  
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PREVIOUSLY WORKED IN FORMER COMMUNIST "LIBERATED ZONE".

4. KHAMTAN ALSO SAID THAT LPDR WAS BEGINNING TO MAKE  
ARRANGEMENTS FOR TOURISM. WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR  
RECENTLY OBTAINED PERMISSION TO VISIT LUANG PRABANG FOR  
TWO DAYS FOR \$200 IN US CURRENCY, WHICH IS FIRST VISIT  
THERE BY NON-COMMUNIST MEMBER OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN

OVER SIX MONTHS.

5. COMMENT: THREE DIRECTORS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY WHO  
HAVE BEEN DEMOTED WERE ALL OFFICIALS OF FORMER GOVERN-  
MENT, AND THEIR PLACES ARE LIKELY TO BE TAKEN BY  
COMMUNISTS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977VIENTI00291  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PGOV, LA  
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**Review Markings:**  
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